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EXAMINER

STEVENS, THOMAS H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2123

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/649,193

Applicant(s)

SINGH, RAMINDERPAL

Examiner

Thomas H. Stevens

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6,9-12,16,17 and 19-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6,9-12,16,17 and 19-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1,2,6, 9-12, 16,17 and 19-52 were examined.
2. Claims 3-5, 8, 13-15 and 18 are cancelled.

Section I: Final Rejection (5th Office Action)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1,2,6, 9-12, 16,17 and 19-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The limitation of "electronic design" is, verbatim, silent in the original disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.

4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1,2,6, 9-12, 16,17, 19-22, 46-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gold et al., (US Patent 6,684,182 (2004)) (hereafter Gold) in view of Wang et al., (US 6,134,516 (2000)) (hereafter Wang) and in further view of Robertson et al., (hereafter Robertson). All three are analogous art since they all teach simulation via a network.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the portal site of Robertson with the automated electronic design of Wang in the plurality of simulation engines of Gold because Roberson teaches a method to make a wide variety of design and verification tools readily and conveniently available to design engineers, and to allow use of such tools without a large initial capital outlay in either software or hardware (Robertson: column 4, lines 52-56). Wang teaches a method to minimize such long signal trace lengths and a form of a flexible and fast simulation/emulation system (Wang: column 3, lines 28-30, 34-35).

Claim 1. A method for facilitating a collaborative electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation between a first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and at least a second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9), wherein said simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) are communicatively coupled together with a simulation portal (column 8, lines 21-35) over a computer network, said method comprising: creating said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) openly accessible to said first and second simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) connected to said computer network; accepting a connection to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) by each of said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and said second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9), receiving an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file at said portal from said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); and providing said electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file from said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) upon request to at least said second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9).

Claim 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) step further comprises: creating said simulation portal using XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20); and configuring said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) to allow connections from each of said simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) connected to said computer network .

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Claim 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising managing electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files for multiple simulations running contemporaneously (Inherent property of the Internet: Robertson: column 7, lines 47-57).

Claim 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said accepting a said connection step further comprises: verifying said connection with a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 9. A system for performing simulations wherein a first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and at least a second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) are communicatively coupled together with a simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) over a computer network, said system comprising: means for creating said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35); means for accepting connections to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) from each of said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and said second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); means for receiving at stimulation portal a one or more electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files from said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); and means for providing said one or more electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files from said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) upon request to said second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9).

Claim 10. The system of claim 9 wherein said means for creating said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) include creating said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) in XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20).

Claim 11. The system of claim 9 wherein said means for accepting connections includes verifying said connection with a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 12. A computer program product embodied on computer readable medium usable by a processor the medium having stored thereon a sequence of instructions (Wang: columns 24-25, lines 66-67, 1-3, respectively) which when executed by said processor causes said processor to execute a method for facilitating a collaborative electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation between a first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and at least a second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9), wherein said first and said second simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) are communicatively coupled with a simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) over a computer network, said computer program product comprising: instructions for making said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) openly accessible to said simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) over said computer network; instructions for accepting a connection to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) from each of said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and said

second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); instructions for receiving an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file uploaded from at least said first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); and instructions for providing said (Wang: column 25, lines 8-20) electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file to at least said second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) upon request.

Claim 16. The computer program product of claim 12 further comprising instructions for managing electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files for multiple simulations running contemporaneously (Inherent property of the Internet: Robertson: column 7, lines 47-57).

Claim 17. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein said instructions for accepting a said connection further comprise instructions for verifying said connection with a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 19. A method for optimizing the components in a system design comprising (Wang: columns 17-18, lines 63-67 and 1-5, respectively): creating a simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) that is openly accessible over a computer network; accepting a connection to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) from each of a plurality of design teams (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10) communicatively coupled together with said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8,

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lines 21-35) over said computer network; receiving an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file at said portal from at least one of said plurality of design teams (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10) connected to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35); providing at least one of said simulation output files from said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) to at least one other of said design teams (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10) connected to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35); and selecting the optimal components (Wang: column 27, lines 49-50) for said system desire based on a comparison of said electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files.

Claim 20. The method of claim 19 wherein accepting said a connection step further comprises verifying said connection with a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 21. The method of claim 19 wherein said desire teams (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10) are not connected to the simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) at the same time.

Claim 22. The method of claim 19, further comprising terminating (Note: examiner claims this inherent: if secure members a have the ability to log on, the opposite is true) said connection to said simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) from any of

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said plurality of design teams (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10) upon request.

Claim 46. An electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation system comprising: a portal,(Robertson: abstract, lines 4-6) comprising a storage area to store data (" multiple databases; "Robertson: column 8, lines 36-61) used in with each of a plurality of electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulations; and a plurality of simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) in communication with the portal, the plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) able to send electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files to the portal and able to receive any of the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output files from the portal.

Claim 47. The system of claim 46, wherein the plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) are not in communication (Inherent: "unplug or disconnect the device") with the portal at the same time.

Claim 48. The system of claim 46, wherein the communications with the portal uses XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20).

Claim 49. The system of claim 46, wherein the communications with the portal (Robertson: column 6, line 40) requires the verification of a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 50. The system of claim 46, wherein the stored data includes a synchronization (standard network communication function) file to allow simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation to match timing steps.

Claim 51. The method of claim 46, wherein the synchronization (standard network communication function) file is updated by each simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) as it simulates.

Claim 52. An electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation system comprising: a portal, (Robertson: column 6, line 40) comprising a storage area to store ("multiple databases;" Robertson: column 8, lines 36-61) data for use in a plurality of simulations; a plurality of web-enabled simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) in communication with the portal, the web-enabled simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) being in communication with each other so that an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file generated by a first simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) can be sent as an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) input file to a second simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9).

8. Claims 23-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gold et al., (US Patent 6,684,182 (2004)) (hereafter Gold) in view of Wang et al., (US 6,134,516 (2000)) (hereafter Wang) and in further view of Robertson et al., (hereafter Robertson) and Berry et al., "Toward Automatic State Management for Dynamic Web Services" 1999 (hereafter Berry). All four are analogous art since they all teach computer networks.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the automated electronic design of Wang; the portal site of Robertson; and the dynamic web service of Berry in the plurality of simulation engines of Gold because Wang teaches a method to minimize such long signal trace lengths and a form of a flexible and fast simulation/emulation system (Wang: column 3, lines 28-30, 34-35). Roberson teaches a method to make a wide variety of design and verification tools readily and conveniently available to design engineers, and to allow use of such tools without a large initial capital outlay in either software or hardware (Robertson: column 4, lines 52-56). Berry teaches a method to significantly improve scalability response times and consumed wide-area bandwidth for dynamic web services (Berry: pg. 10, right column, lines 15-17).

Claim 23. A simulation portal (Robertson: column 8, lines 21-35) comprising: a data storage repository, (" multiple databases; "Robertson: column 8, lines 36-61) capable of storing data for each of a plurality of electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulations, a communications server, allowing a plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) to connect to the portal and to participate in one or more of the plurality electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) of simulations (Robertson: column 6, lines 37-40); and a simulation controller (Robertson: column 8, lines 34-35 and column 6, lines 37-45), managing and synchronizing communications (standard network communication function) between the participating simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9), the portal being created dynamically (Berry: pg. 7, "Experience" section, 2nd paragraph to page 8, left column, 1st paragraph).

Claim 24. The portal of claim 23, wherein the simulation controller (Robertson: column 8, lines 34-35 and column 6, lines 37-45) manages simulation data for multiple electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulations running contemporaneously (Inherent property of the Internet: Robertson: column 7, lines 47-57).

Claim 25. The portal of claim 23, wherein the data includes a synchronization (standard network communication function) file to allow the participating simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) to match timing steps, said data associated with each of the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulations available to any

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simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation.

Claim 26. The portal of claim 25, wherein the synchronization (standard network communication function) files is updated by each simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation as it simulates.

Claim 27. The portal of claim 23, wherein the plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) includes any web (Robertson: column 8, lines 30-31) enabled engine.

Claim 28. The portal of claim 23, wherein the simulation controller (Robertson: column 8, lines 34-35 and column 6, lines 37-45) verifies a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 29. The portal of claim 23, wherein the communication server allows each simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) to disconnect (Inherent: e.g., "pull the power cord") from the portal upon request.

Claim 30. The portal of claim 23, wherein the plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) are not connected (Inherent: e.g., "pull the power cord") to the portal at the same time.

Claim 31. The portal of claim 23, wherein the portal is terminated dynamically (Berry: pg. 7, "Experience" section, 2nd paragraph to page 8, left column, 1st paragraph) by writing programming files and executing those files.

Claim 32. The portal of claim 23, wherein the programming files are written in XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20).

Claim 33. The portal of claim 23, wherein the communications between the participating simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) and the portal uses XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20).

Claim 34. The portal of claim 23, wherein the portal (Robertson: column 7, lines 33-34) is created by an entity not participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation.

Claim 35. A method for conducting a collaborative electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation of a circuit desired comprising: a) dynamically (Berry: pg. 7, "Experience" section, 2nd paragraph to page 8, left column, 1st paragraph) creating a

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portal, by writing programming files in XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20)) and executing those files; b) granting access to the portal to a plurality of simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9); c) receiving an electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file associated with a first portion of the circuit designed from a first of said plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) ; d) storing the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24)simulation output file in a storage area, (" multiple databases; "Robertson: column 8, lines 36-61) said output file available to any of said plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) ; e) sending the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24)simulation output file to each of said plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) upon request, at least a second of said plurality of simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) performing a simulation for a second portion of the circuit design using the output file as output) between team members (Wang: columns 78 and 79, lines 64-67, 1-10));and f) repeating c) through e) until the circuit design has been simulated (Repetition: Design Choice, See MPEP 2144.04 Section VI, part B, **Duplication of Parts**, *In re Harza*, 274 F.2d 669, 124 USPQ 378 (CCPA 1960)).

Claim 36. The method of claim 35, further comprising, g) terminating the portal by executing one or more XML (Robertson: column 8, lines 16-20) statements.

Claim 37. The method of claim 35, wherein the storage area (" multiple databases; "Robertson: column 8, lines 36-61) includes a synchronization (standard network

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communication function) file associated with the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation to allow participating simulation engines (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) to match timing steps.

Claim 38. The method of claim 37, wherein the synchronization (standard network communication function) file is updated by each simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) as it simulates.

Claim 39. The method of claim 35, wherein each simulation engine (Gold: abstract, lines 7-9) terminates access (users signs off) to the portal after its output file is received.

Claim 40. The method of claim 35, wherein the portal (Robertson: column 6, line 40) is created by an entity not participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation.

Claim 41. The method of claim 35, wherein the portal (Robertson: column 6, line 40) is created by an entity participating in the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation.

Claim 42. The method of claim 35, wherein granting access to the portal) comprises verifying a username and password combination (Robertson: column 15, line 6).

Claim 43. The method of claim 35, wherein the simulation output file includes an industry standard (industry standard is thus well-known) output format.

Claim 44. The method of claim 35, wherein the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output file includes a vendor specific output file format.

Claim 45. The method of claim 35, wherein receiving the electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulation output tile includes receiving electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) output files from multiple electronic design (Wang: column 1, line 24) simulations running contemporaneously (Inherent by nature of the Internet: Robertson: column 7, lines 47-57).

Section II: Response to Applicants Arguments (4th Office Action)

F Zhan and Robertson Fail to Disclose of Suggest Managing and Synchronizing Communication Between Simulation Engines (Subset F of Applicants' Response)

9. Applicants are correct regarding Zhang's lack of teaching of said limitation; however Robertson discloses a network, i.e., the Internet by which synchronizing is a ubiquitous feature of the Internet.

10. Applicant's arguments, see section I. A-E,G and H, filed 03/13/2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 1,2,6, 9-12, 16,17 and 19-52 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection is made in view of Gold, Wang, Robertson and Berry.

Citation to Relevant Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Greenberg et al. "A System Software Architecture for High-End Computing" teaches data movement interface.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Tom Stevens whose telephone number is 571-272-3715, Monday-Friday (8:00 am- 4:30 pm EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact examiner's supervisor Mr. Paul Rodriguez 571-272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Answers to questions regarding access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) (toll-free (866-217-9197)).

May 31, 2006


Paul L. Rodriguez 6/7/06
Supervisor Primary Examiner
Art Unit 24252123

TS